

# **Categorical Exclusion**

## **Arctic Backcountry Flying Services**

Prepared by  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**

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# **Chapter 1. Eric Sieh, dba — Arctic Backcountry Flying Service, LLC**

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## A. Background

**BLM Office:** Central Yukon Field Office

**Lease/Serial/Case File No.:** FF096602

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** 2930 — Special Recreation Permit.

**Location of Proposed Action:** The activity will take place in Game Management Unit 23.

**Description of Proposed Action:** Eric Sieh, dba, Arctic Backcountry Flying Service, LLC, has applied for use of BLM lands from July 20 – November 20, 2014. The applicant is registered with the State of Alaska Big Game Commercial Services Board as an air transporter. The company carries recreational users into the Squirrel River Management Area (SRMA) in the summer and fall seasons for big game hunting activities.

## B. Land Use Plan Conformance

**Land Use Plan Name:** Kobuk/Seward Peninsula RMP

**Date Approved/Amended:** September 4, 2008

**The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):** M-1: Goal Approved RMP page 31: “On BLM-managed lands, improve access to appropriate recreation opportunities, ensure a quality outdoor experience and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources, and provide for and receive fair value in recreation.”

## C. Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.9 H; which states, “Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impacts no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads, trails, or in areas authorized in a land use plan.”

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

I considered: the proposed action of providing access for Arctic Backcountry Air Service, LLC, and find that there is no potential for significant impacts to BLM lands in the Squirrel River area.

## **D. Approval and Contact Information**

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//Nichelle W Jacobson//  
Manager, Central Yukon Field Office

Date 04/22/14

### **Contact Person**

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